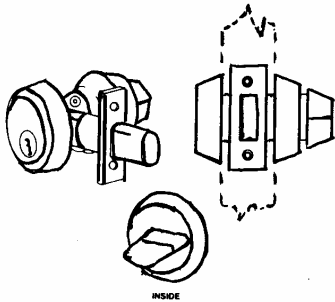


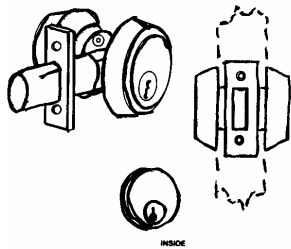
The "NET" BUSINESS WATCH

SECURING YOUR BUSINESS

There has been an increase in burglaries to businesses since the weather warmed up. Here are some suggestions for locks to better secure your business. Unfortunately there isn't any lock that is 100 % burglar proof.



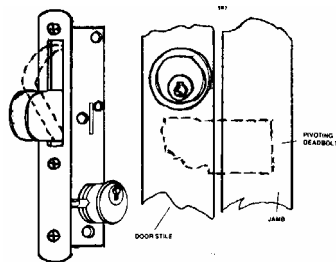
Single Cylinder - Key-operated on outside and thumb turn on the inside. Good for residential locks or locks that are not close to glass. The throw should be at least 1" long.



Double cylinder - Key operated on both sides.

Good for commercial property. Prevents intruder from breaking a window and reaching in unlocking the door from the inside.

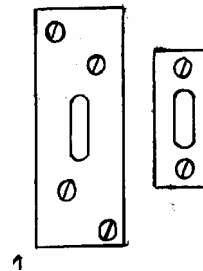
Disadvantage - no quick exit in case of a fire.



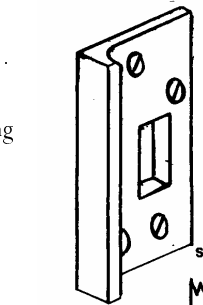
Aluminum-framed glass doors: since the space is limited for a long horizontal throw a Pivoting deadbolt is recommended to guard against spreading of the door from the frame.



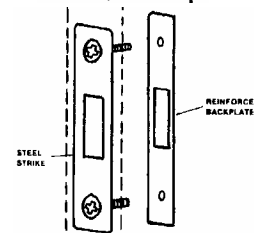
A lock guard will help prevent an intruder from putting a tool between the door and frame to pry it open.



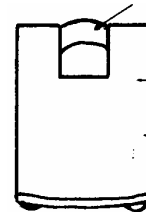
Strike plates - Three or more offset wood screws at least 3 1/2 inches long are used to mount the strike. The screws must extend through the jamb and into the studs of the door frame.



A strike plate with a lip adds security from jimmying and skimming.



Reinforcing the strike plate on the aluminum door will help protect from spreading or peeling the door frame. Use at least 3" screws.



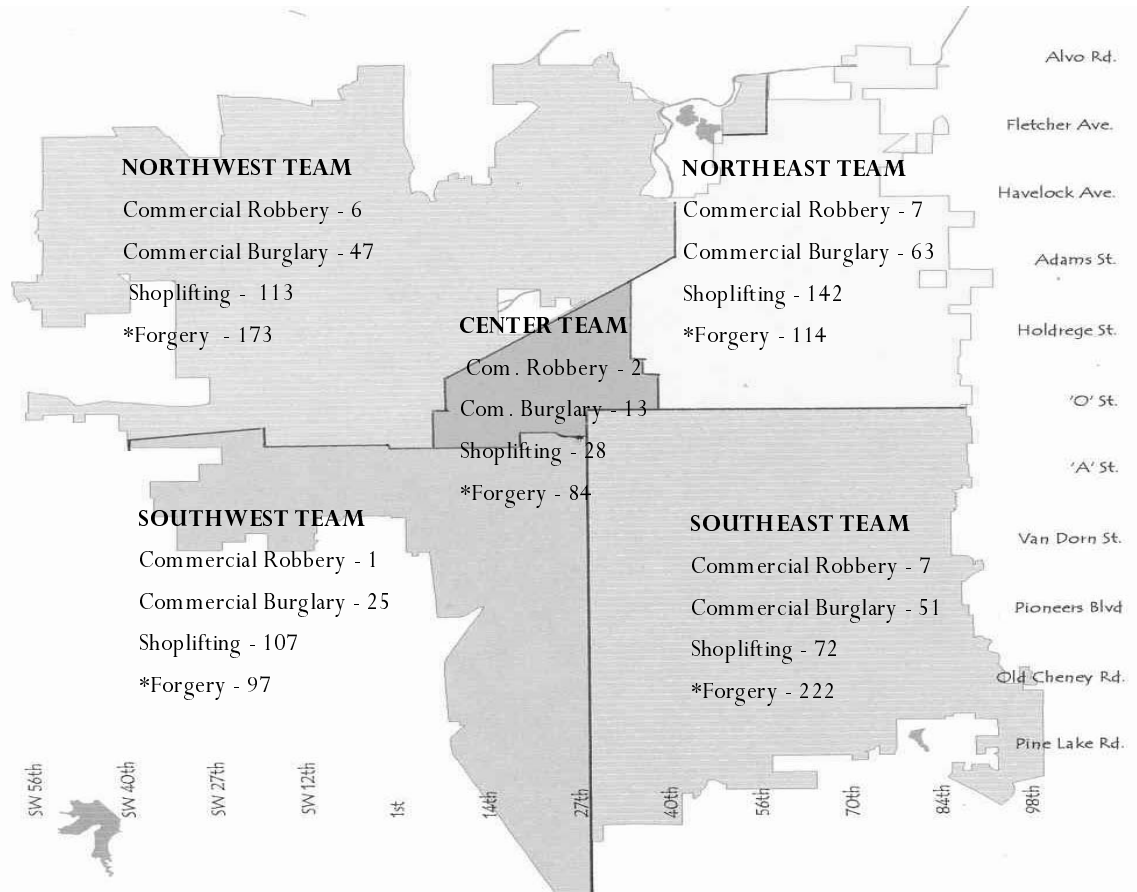
Security padlock with a short hardened steel shackle helps prevent an intruder from cutting off the padlock

Additional security measures: Keep lights on at night at all outside entrances and exit doors. Keep landscaping trimmed near windows and doors. Bushes should be no taller than 3' and trees should be pruned up to 6' from the ground. This creates a natural surveillance area that allows neighbors or passersby to observe activity at those points. Make sure all windows are closed and locked after hours. Exterior doors should be installed with the hinges on the inside or so the pin can't be removed. Check for ladders, utility poles and dumpsters that may supply an intruder access to your roof. Keep a few interior lights on after hours. Don't leave high dollar items close to windows or doors.

CRIME TRENDS

From 3-1-03 to 6-16-03

For more information about the crime trends in your neighborhood go to the city web site.

<http://www.ci.lincoln.ne.us/city/police>

*Forgeries includes personal or business checks and credit cards.

**TEAM AREA FORUM MEETINGS**

The Neighborhood Watch Program is having team area forum meetings. Since these areas also include the businesses, we are inviting all Business Watch members to attend. These forums are with the Lincoln Police Department Captains of Southeast, Northeast, Southwest, Northwest and Center teams. You will be given information of crime trends in your area and a chance to discuss any concerns or questions you may have.

NORTHEAST TEAM meeting will be on Tuesday August 19, 2003, 7 p.m. at Pershing Elementary School Auditorium, 6402 Judson.

SOUTHWEST TEAM meeting will be on Tuesday August 26, 2003 at 7 p.m. at the Bess Dodson Walt Library, 6701 South 14th.

CENTER TEAM meeting will be on Tuesday September 16, 2003 at 7 p.m. at the Center Team Station, 1501 N. 27th.

SOUTHEAST TEAM meeting will be on Tuesday September 16, 2003 at 6 p.m. at the Bryan Medical Plaza, 1500 South 48th.

NORTHWEST TEAM meeting will be on Wednesday October 8, 2003 at 7 p.m. The location for this meeting will be announced later.

Check the map above to find out what team boundary your business lies in.

PERSONAL SAFETY IN THE FIELD

As you go out into the field to make contact with a client, or customer, there is always a risk of that person being, or becoming ,upset or violent. Their emotional instability may have nothing to do with why you're there. To protect yourself, you always need to be aware of your surroundings and have a plan if a volatile situation arises.

Plan ahead:

- What is the reason, or problem, requiring you to go?
- Do you have any history on the address or person you'll be contacting?
- Formulate a plan of action based upon what you know.

When you arrive:

- Drive by the house - does everything look OK?
- Scan the neighborhood - is anyone just "hanging out"?
- Look for more then one way to leave the area and don't park directly in front of the house.

At the door:

- Before knocking, listen for a few moments to see what kinds of noises are coming from inside.
- Do you hear fighting?
- Do not stand directly in front of the door.
- When the door is answered, assess the person - do they appear intoxicated, upset or angry?
- If possible, conduct your business without going inside the residence.
- Carry a cell phone to call for help if needed, but remember, you have to know where you are.

Entering the residence:

- Do you see any weapons, alcohol, narcotics, or animals?
- Are there any other adults or children present?
- Check for alternative exits.
- Stand, or sit on a hard chair if possible.

Speaking to the person:

- Use non-threatening/non-confrontational body language.
- Position yourself 3' - 6' away from the person and do not stand directly in front of the person.
- Do not touch or invade their personal space.

If things go wrong:

- Stay calm, keep your distance and engage in active listening.
- Give them time to vent.
- Do not become animated in your body language.
- Call for help if possible.

If it appears the situation could become violent:

- If possible, get out of the house.
- If you are not able to leave, try to put some type of furniture (chair, table) between you and the hostile person.
- Use a clipboard, pillows, etc. to block blows.

CRIME -FREE DOLLARS:

In an effort to reduce the number of larcenies out of vehicles, an awareness program was initiated by the Lincoln Police Department. Statistically, one of the largest groups of persons victimized by this crime are high school age students. The Lincoln public high schools were contacted and the students notified that if they left their cars locked, with all valuables out of sight, they could be eligible for a drawing to win \$50. AAA INSURANCE generously donated enough money so that one student from each public high school could win \$50. After the program was publicized at the schools, officers randomly checked through student parking areas looking for cars that did not leave an opportunity for thieves. License plate numbers of cars that complied were recorded and then placed into a drawing.

On May 20th, AAA Insurance Agent Kim Gonzalez drew five winner's names:



- Rosanne Navas - Lincoln High School
- Cassidy Tucker - Southwest High School
- Ashley Lawrence - Northeast High School
- Patrick Spangler - East High School
- Robyn Stokke - Southeast High School



L to R: Sgt. Mike Siefkes, AAA Office Manager Marilyn Muir, and AAA Insurance Agent Kim Gonzalez drawing names of the \$50 prize winners.

THE "NET" BUSINESS

LINCOLN POLICE DEPARTMENT CRIME PREVENTION GROUP

575 S. 10TH St.

Lincoln, Nebraska 68508

Return Service

GRAFFITI VANDALISM

Spring 2003 saw there was an increase in the number of graffiti vandalisms. Some of this graffiti appears to be gang related. Right now the cost of property damage due to these vandalism is at \$5,340. Most of these incidents are occurring on Monday through Friday between the hours of 6 p.m. to 8 a.m.

If you observe graffiti or other signs of gang activity please be sure to call the police and report it. Also, if graffiti occurs on your property remove it as soon as possible.

JULY 4TH

This year's Fourth of July Celebration sponsored by the City of Lincoln will be held at Oak Lake Park.

The park is located at 1st & Charleston Streets. Check local newspaper, radio and television for information on activities, traffic and parking.

PRE-APPROVED ID THEFT

Many people receive pre-approved credit card applications in the mail. These applications often have personal information already printed them including your name, address, phone number, and sometimes even a social security number. Most of the time these applications are unsolicited, unwanted and end up in the garbage. Once they are thrown away they could be accessible to thieves who often go through garbage to obtain personal information they can use to steal from bank accounts or credit accounts. If you receive these kinds of offers through the mail make sure that you shred the documents before throwing them away. To put a stop on receiving these pre-approved forms you can use the "OPT-OUT" program. By calling 1-888-567-8688 your name can be removed from the list of major credit bureaus.